

REMARKS

Claims 1-5 and 8-12 are in the application. Each of the claims remaining in the case stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Kamio (US 2003/0050001). The Examiner states that Kamio's fins (13) as shown Kamio's Figure 4, cannot completely cut-off airflow from his outlet when fins 13 are in the closed position, because Kamio indicates that his shutter valve, 20, does that. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection and requests, once again, that Claims 1-5 and 8-12 be reconsidered and passed to issue over the Examiner's rejection.

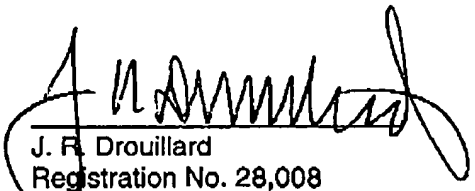
Kamio neither teaches nor suggests Applicant's claimed invention because Kamio's device is arranged such that whenever fins 13 are closed, Kamio's control valve 20 is closed, as shown in Kamio's figure 24 and described in Kamio at paragraph [0083]. Thus, no air flows through Kamio's device whenever fins 13 are closed. One is free to speculate whether Kamio's fins 13, acting alone, would be sufficient to either stop all airflow, or allow some flow, but this question is never answered in Kamio for the simple reason that he closes valve 20 whenever fins 13 are closed.

In contradistinction to Kamio, with Applicant's claimed device, even when Applicant's screen is in a closed condition, Applicant's airflow control valve allows some air to pass through the screen. In essence, the claimed invention uses closed screen slats to create a soft flow of air, and Kamio neither teaches nor suggests this structure and function. As a result, each of the claims made in this case is allowable over Kamio and should be passed to issue. Such action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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